

# IRTS Radio News Billetin Sunday 28 August 2022

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## Club News

Niall EI6HIB and Megan EI5LA returned safely from Croatia and had a brilliant time operating the super station and meeting many talented young ops of different backgrounds. The support of EI was particularly felt by putting so many EIs in the log over the week! A huge thanks to the 9A team who organized the event, and to the IRTS for sponsoring travel expenses for Megan and Niall. A full write up will be available in the upcoming Echo Ireland.

The next meeting of Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will be held this coming Tuesday the 30th of August 2022 at 8.30pm in The Talbot Hotel, Clonmel, Co Tipperary. The Talbot Hotel, which was formerly known as The Clonmel Park Hotel, is located just off the Cahir Road Roundabout on the outskirts of the town. The upcoming SSB Field day and other radio related matters are up for discussion. Everyone is welcome to attend!

The August meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group (EI2WRC) will take place tomorrow Monday the 29th of August 2022 at 8.00 p.m. sharp at The Sweep Bar, Adamstown, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford (Eircode X91 H588). All members are please asked to attend. New members or anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio or the group are as always very welcome to attend. For anyone that wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can drop them an email to [southeasternarg /at/ gmail.com](mailto:southeasternarg/at/gmail.com) or please feel free to go along to any of their meetings. You can check their website [www.searg.ie](http://www.searg.ie) and you can also join them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

On the weekend of the 20th & 21st of August, the North Dublin Radio Club (EI0NDR) activated the Baily Lighthouse at Howth, Co Dublin. Overall, eleven members of the club took part in the event over the two days, and for the majority of the members who attended it was their first field event. The club operated approximately 8 to 10 hours each day and made contact with 23 different lighthouses around Europe. The club is proud of the fact that the vast majority of the contacts made were done using home-brew antennas built by the members of the club, including a magnetic loop made by Darwin (EI4KX), a dual 6 and 4 meter delta loop made by Chris (EI5HNB) and an end fed half wave wire antenna built by Mick (EI6IKB). The club set up its equipment in two cabins adjacent to the helipad and had multiple pile-ups on SSB phone and CW resulting in over 300 QSO's. Annard (EI4IQB) set up for FT8 on his Icom ic-705 and made multiple contacts, and Chris (EI5HNB) set up for 2, 4 and 6 meters and 70 centimeters, which culminated in a lot

of calls for our log, including some ARISS contacts into Europe. The majority of the contacts were on SSB phone, CW contacts were made by Tony (EI5EM), Darwin (EI4KX) Victor (EI5IYB) and Clive (EI2HHB). Dermot (EI4ESB), Tony (EI6K) and our newest licensee Howard (EI9INB) were also a huge help over the two days. All the members involved had a wonderful two days at the Baily and we would like to thank both the staff on site and at the Commissioner for Irish Lights for the hospitality and their assistance in making the club's field day a memorable one.

The Strangford High Frequency Enthusiasts Group is hosting a new free Full UK Licence distance learning program starting on the 12th of September via Google Meet. Places are still available for the course at 8pm each Monday evening. Full support is available via email and the material is also presented via 140 useful videos and documentation. Contact GI0VKP /at/ gmail.com.

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### **Icelandic Hamradio Anniversary**

Today, celebrating in style at their headquarters in Skeljanes on the occasion of the club's 75th anniversary, Iceland's Radio Amateurs invite members, their families and friends to an "Irish Birthday Coffee". Hot chocolate, coffee and drinks, Icelandic pancakes and waffles with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream and marzipan-cream pie are offered. We congratulate our neighbours in Iceland for the 75th anniversary of their lively and welcoming club.

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### **Special Call-signs**

A chance to work Malaysia arises from Monday to Thursday, when on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Independence of Malaysia Members of the Taiping Amateur Radio Club, coordinated by the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society (MARTS) will be active with the special call-sign 9M65MA from Jalan Istana, Taiping, Malaysia. The website at [www.marts.org.my](http://www.marts.org.my) has the details, however, it went offline late on Friday.

Trinidad and Tobago celebrates their 60th Independence Anniversary on Wednesday. The amateur radio special event station, 9Y60TT, will operate until next Friday. The event will be multi-mode, multi-band and multi-operator. Modes will include HF SSB, CW, Slow Scan TV (SSTV), Digital Modes FT8, JS8, FT4 and JT65, 2m EME (Moonbounce), Satellite, APRS via ISS, and digital voice modes. QSL is via the Logbook of The World, QRZ.com, ClubLog, and HRDLog. The website at [www.9y60tt.info](http://www.9y60tt.info) has the latest info about times, bands and modes.

Members of the Zagreb Amateur Radio Association will activate the call-sign

9A24ZRF during the 24th Zagreb Radio Fest (ZRF) at the House of Technology at Jarun Lake, Zagreb, next Friday and Saturday. QSL via the Bureau or LoTW.

Off the west coast of Scotland, the Isle of Lewis and Isle of Harris form the main island in the Outer Hebrides, IOTA EU-010. Graham, MM0GHM, will be active as MM0GHM/M or MM0GHM/P from Lewis and Harris Island until next Friday, mainly on 20m. QSL via his home call-sign MM0GHM direct, by the Bureau or eQSL.

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## **Contests**

The IARU Region-1 SSB Fieldday running for 24 hours from next Saturday 13:00 UTC is an excellent opportunity for a club activity. With a limit on the height and type of the antenna the playing-field is levelled for QRP, low- and high-powered stations. The bands are 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 MHz, within the contest segments. Only one signal may be transmitted at any one time. A station may be contacted once on each band.

The 63rd All Asian DX Contest take place on the same weekend, but from 00:00 UTC next Saturday, to 24:00 UTC next Sunday on 160 to 10 meters. Info and rules can be found on the English language pages of the Japan Amateur Radio League's web-site at [www.jarl.org](http://www.jarl.org)

An early notice for the upcoming popular UKEICC 80m Contests. The first UKEICC 80m contest of the 2022-23 season is taking place on the 7th of September at 2000z in the 80m SSB contest segment. Cabrillo logs are to be submitted within one hour after the end of the contest. The Bonus stations G5GEI and EI5G will be active. These twice-monthly one hour contests are timed to coincide with the hours of darkness over most of Ireland, the UK and Europe. They are open to all stations anywhere to enter, and the scoring is distance based. The 2022-23 series runs from September 2022 until April 2023, a total of 14 contests, with alternating SSB and CW legs. The contest exchange is simplified, no RST should be sent. These contests aim to encourage high quality operating, where each operator can balance speed of operating against logging accuracy. Those operators that can develop both of these essential skills while working the most stations at the greatest distances will always do best. Scores will accumulate to give overall winners in each section at the end of the series. All the details can be found on [www.ukaicc.com](http://www.ukaicc.com)

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## **The Propagation Horoscope**

Just after coming into view, sunspot AR-3089 is producing a series of intensifying C- and M-class solar flares. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory captured a powerful

flare at 1016 UTC on Friday morning, triggering short-lived radio blackouts over Africa and Europe. An associated CME and its plasma cloud will arrive at the beginning of the week, keep an eye on the as yet low Kp value, likely rising to 4. Expect a low MUF, strong D-Layer absorption, deep fading and generally disturbed conditions on the HF bands.

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to [newsteam@irts.ie](mailto:newsteam@irts.ie) for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is Friday noon.

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